

**A SUBSTITUTE ORDINANCE  
BY CITY UTILITIES COMMITTEE**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 154  
ARTICLE III DIVISION 3 SECTIONS 154-111  
AND 154-112 (WATER RATES AND  
CHARGES) AND CHAPTER 154 ARTICLE V  
DIVISION 3 SECTIONS 154-276 AND 154-277  
(SEWER RATES AND CHARGES) TO  
INCREASE THE WATER AND SEWER  
RATES FOR THE CITY OF ATLANTA,  
GEORGIA TO BE CHARGED ALL  
RESIDENTS, PREMISES, AND FACILITIES  
SERVED BY THE WATER AND SEWER  
SYSTEM OF THE CITY AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES**

**WHEREAS** THE City of Atlanta, pursuant to its charter, has the responsibility of providing water and service to its citizens, corporate customers and others outside the corporate boundaries of the City on both a retail and wholesale basis; and

**WHEREAS**, the City's water and sewer system is aging which has resulted in water main breaks and leaks and sewer line overflows; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to upgrade ,improve and expand the system to protect the public's health and welfare and to serve their needs; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1998 and 1999 the City agreed to a Consent Agreement with the EPA and the State to complete specified system improvements within a stated time period; and

**WHEREAS**, the cost of these improvements are such that resources are not available for construction within the existing water and sewer revenue stream; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and the City Council have, after extensive research and analysis, concluded that to maintain and upgrade the water treatment and distribution system and the wastewater treatment and collection system to meet federal and state regulations and the future demands of economic growth in the City, a major program of capital improvements had to be initiated; and

**WHEREAS**, in late 1998, the City increased water and sewer rates to provide continued funding for the capital improvement program initiated in 1997; and

**WHEREAS**, the last increase of the 1998 three phase increase occurred in late 2000; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary for another water and sewer rate increase to be implemented to provided continued funding for the capital improvements begun in 1997 so that the capital improvement program can be completed within the time period agreed to in the Consent Agreement with the EPA and the State, and

**WHEREAS**, it is recommended that rates be adjusted in three phases.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA AS FOLLOWS:

**SECTION 1**, That Chapter 154, Article III, Division 3 (Water Rates, Charges, and Relater Matters), Sections 154-111 and 154-112 be amended to increase water rates as follows:

That In-City water rates for domestic, commercial, industrial and other users of the City of Atlanta system shall continue to be \$1.70 per hundred cubic and Outside-City water rates for domestic, commercial, industrial and other users of the City of Atlanta system shall continue to be \$2.06 per hundred cubic effective for all billing cycles beginning after January 1, 2002.

That In-City water rates for domestic, commercial, industrial and other users of the City of Atlanta system shall be \$1.75 per hundred cubic and Outside-City water rates for domestic, commercial, industrial and other users of the City of Atlanta system shall be \$2.12 per hundred cubic effective for all billing cycles beginning after January 1, 2003.

That In-City water rates for domestic, commercial, industrial and other users of the City of Atlanta system shall be \$1.80 per hundred cubic and Outside-City water rates for domestic, commercial, industrial and other users of the City of Atlanta system shall be \$2.18 per hundred cubic effective for all billing cycles beginning after January 1, 2004

**SECTION 2**, That Chapter 154, Article V, Division 3 (Sewer Rates and Charges), Sections 154-276 and 154-277 be amended to increase sewer rates as follows:

sewer rates for domestic, commercial, industrial and other users of the City of Atlanta system shall be \$3.93 per hundred cubic feet effective for all billing cycles beginning after January 1, 2002.

That sewer rates for domestic, commercial, industrial and other users of the City of Atlanta system shall be \$4.45 per hundred cubic feet effective for all billing cycles beginning after January 1, 2003

That sewer rates for domestic, commercial, industrial and other users of the City of Atlanta system shall be \$5.03 per hundred cubic feet effective for all billing cycles beginning after January 1, 2004.

**SECTION 3,** That effective January 1, 2005 for all billing cycles beginning after January 1, 2005 and for each year thereafter water and sewer rates may be increased based on the Consumer Price Index or other appropriate index for the preceding period not to exceed three percent (3%) per annum.

**SECTION 4,** That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith be and the same are hereby repealed.